USER MANUAL

Xedio Playout Organizer

Version 4.50 - August 2014

Xedio

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What's New?

In the user manual, the icon NEW ! has been added on the left margin to highlight information on new and updated features.

The sections updated to reflect the new and modified features on Xedio Playout Organizer from Xedio Suite 4.50 (compared to Xedio Suite 4.40) are listed below.

LinX, and the direct access to EVS serves, is no more supported

Media lists do not display the items created on EVS video servers.

- See section "Type of Material" on page 6.

1. Introduction

1.1. Product Description

Playout Organizer allows a user to create, edit and more generally manage the broadcast playlists. From database items or from MOS rundowns, a playlist may be assigned to one or two SDI output channels allowing the user to start a playout session (all output channels can be controlled by one single Playout Organizer workstation).

Playout Organizer is a client/server application; the client software and the server software may be installed on a same workstation or on different ones according to the user requirements and needs.

1.2. Opening Playout Organizer

To start the Xedio Playout Organizer application, select the application from **Start > Programs > EVS Broadcast Equipment** or click on the **Xedio Playout Organizer** icon on the desktop.

The Xedio workstation may be integrated into an Active Directory domain. In this case, Xedio Playout Organizer will automatically open without requesting additional access codes when the user starts it.

The user group the user belongs to in the Windows domain must be linked to a user role in Xedio Manager. This determines the set of user rights and user settings the user will have in the application. In case a user belongs to several Windows groups, the system retrieve them in alphabetical order and checks whether the first group matches a user role. The use of Windows authentication must have been enabled in Xedio Manager. See the Xedio Manager user manual for more information.

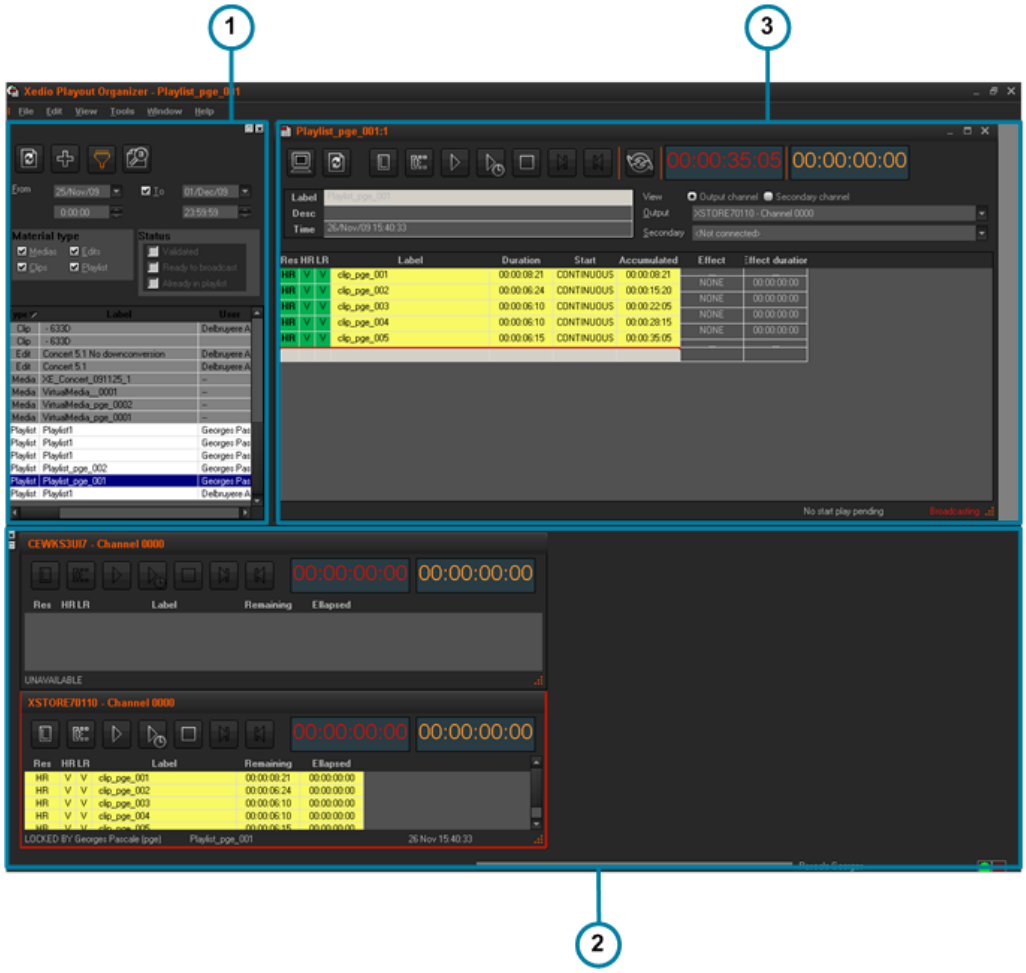
In case the auto-log off mode is activated and the Windows authentication by Active Directory mode is used, the auto-log off becomes an auto-quit function.

If the Xedio workstation is not integrated into an Active Directory domain, a login screen will display, where users have to enter their own Xedio username and password.

1.3. Overview of the Xedio Playout Organizer Window

Illustration

The Xedio Playout Organizer window contains the areas highlighted on the screenshot below:



Note
The color of some user interface elements may vary with the Xedio skin installed.

Area Description

The table below describes the various parts of the Xedio Playout Organizer window:

Part	Name	Description
1.	Contents Pane	This pane provides filters and search options. They will return a list of available material present in the database which can be inserted into a playlist.
2.	Playlist Pane	This pane is used to create a new playlist or to edit an existing playlist.
3.	Channel Pane	This pane is used to show the playout channels status and controls.

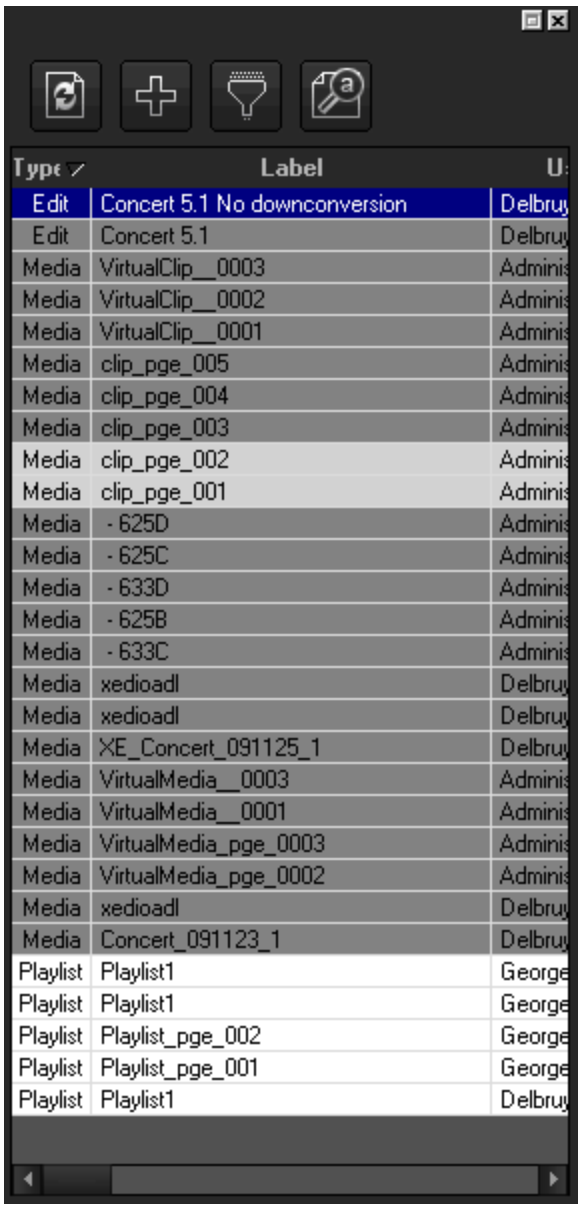
2. The Contents Pane

2.1. Introduction

The Contents pane is used to find and select the elements that the user wants to use in a playlist, or to select and open an existing playlist.

The upper part of the pane provides a selection criteria area, filters and search options, which can be used to narrow the results list.

The lower part of the pane displays the list of media referenced in the database and corresponding to the defined selection criteria.

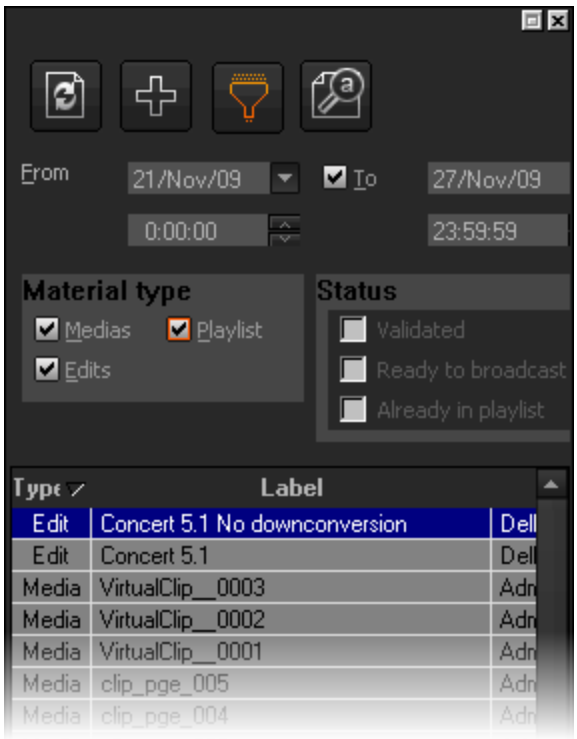


2.2. Filter View

2.2.1. Filter View Activation

To activate the Filter View, click the button.

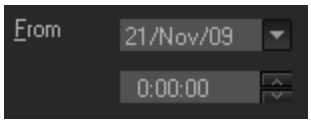
The button turns then colored and specific **Filter** fields are displayed.



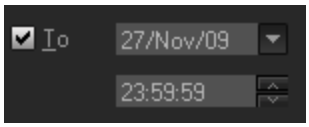
2.2.2. Available Filter Options

Date of Insertion of the Material into the Database

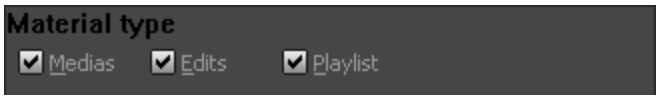
You can define a single date by selecting date and time information in the **From [date and time]** fields.



If you want to select a range of dates or times, select the **To** box and select date and time values in the **To [date and time]** fields.



Type of Material



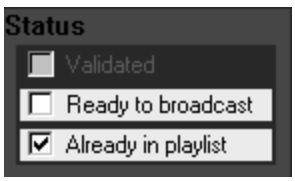
NEW !

- **Media**: provides a list of items corresponding to files as ingested or imported into the Xedio suite environment, or to virtual media created with Xedio Browse and published.
- **Edits** are the edits created in CleanEdit.
- **Playlists** is a collection of any of the above items which have already been assembled into a playlist.

Status

Status Options

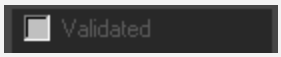
The status can be viewed as a flag present on the material item. Items can be filtered on three statuses in Playout Organizer:



- **Validated**: this flag is set when the item is accepted in Xedio Approval.
- **Already in playlist**: this flag relates to material that has already been placed in a playlist.
- **Ready To Broadcast**: this flag is set on edits that are R2B in CleanEdit.

Status Filter Activation

Each **Status** filter provides 3 states to be used within the search:

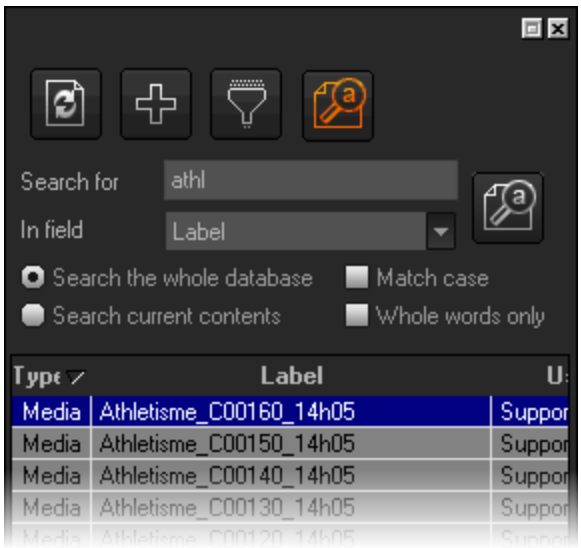
State	Meaning
	When the button is not pushed, the corresponding filter is not active, and therefore not applied.
	When the button is pushed, the filter is active. If the box is not selected, the search will show items which do not meet the chosen criterion. In the example, the search will show the items not yet validated.
	When the button is pushed, the filter is active. If the box is selected, the chosen criterion is taken into account. In the example, the search will show the items already validated.

2.3. Search View

Search View Activation

To activate the Search View, click the button.

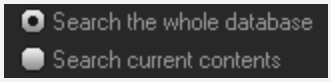
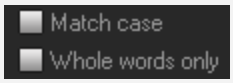
The button turns then colored and specific **Search** fields are displayed:



Available Search Options

The search view requires an entry in the **Search for** field to find contents.

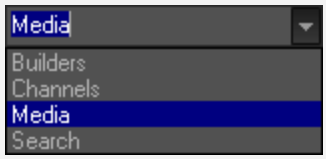
The following options are available to perform a search:

Option	Meaning
	Choose to perform a search based on the **Label** or on the **User**.
	Choose to perform a search in the **whole database** or in the **current content**, i.e. items currently displayed in the Contents list.
	Select **Match case** if you want the search results to match exactly the sequence entered in the **Search for** field. This is case sensitive. Select **Whole words only** if you want the search results to contain whole word equal to the sequence entered in the **Search for** field. Both options may be selected at the same time.

2.4. Contents List Contextual Menu

A contextual menu is available when you right-click on a media item in the list:

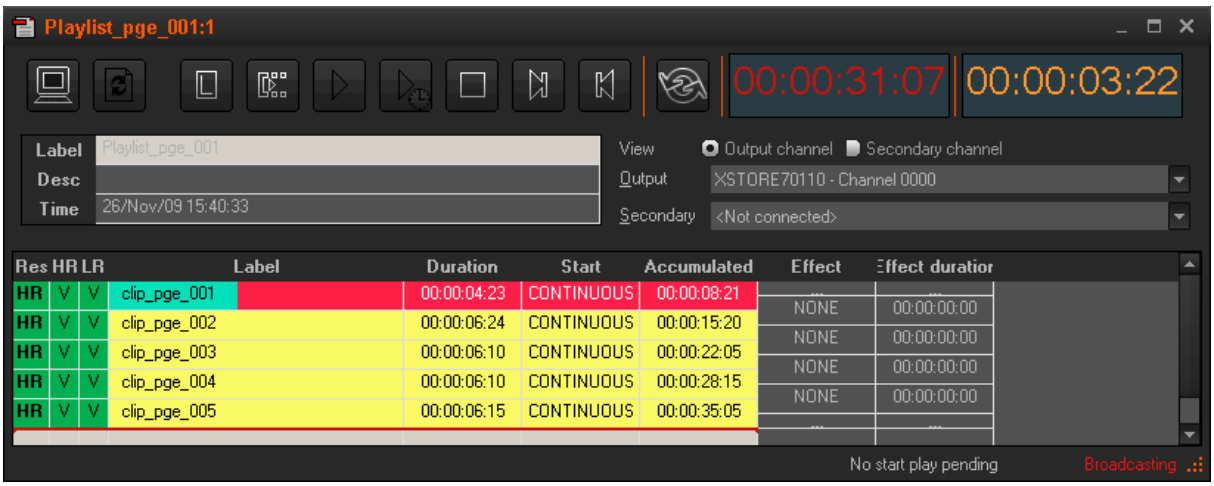
Menu Item	Description
Add Media to Playlist	Adds the selected media item to the Playlist pane, at the current position.
Preview media	Opens a Player window and load the selected item. The transport controls let the user browse the content loaded in the player.

Menu Item	Description
Select Visible Columns	Opens the Grid Configuration window allowing to select the columns to be visible in the list and to define their width. This window is the same for all the lists displayed in the Xedio Playout Organizer window. To update the Contents list, select **Media** from the field: 
Options available for playlists only:	
Open Playlist	Opens the selected playlist in the Playlist pane.
Export Playlist to text File	Opens an Export window allowing to save the playlist as text file, to give it a name and to select its destination.
Delete Items from Database	Deletes the selected playlist.

3. The Playlist Pane

3.1. Introduction

The Playlist pane is designed to build playlists. It is sometimes referred to as the Builders window.



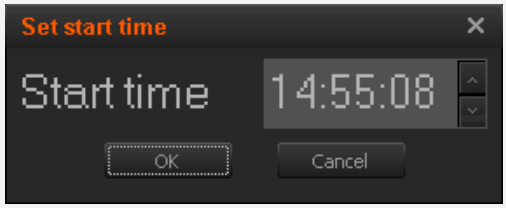
The upper part of the Playlist pane displays information related to the loaded playlist and provides transport buttons and timecode fields.

The lower part of the Playlist pane displays the list of elements making the playlist.

3.2. Overview of the Playlist Pane

3.2.1. Transport Controls

Operation	User Interface Button	Meaning
Force Low Resolution		Forces a playlist to be played out in low resolution instead of the default high resolution.
Cue		Loads the playlist on the output channel.

Operation	User Interface Button	Meaning
Play		Starts the playout of the playlist. The button switches to the **Pause** button only if the relevant software parameter has been selected from Xedio Manager: **Enable Play Pause** from **Softwares > Parameters Profiles > Xedio Playout Organizer > default**.
Play On Time	 ↔ 	Starts the playout of the playlist at a predefined time. Clicking the button opens the following window where the user will enter the desired start time.  The **Play On Time** button will then blink until the playlist starts: Then, the button switches to the **Pause** button.
Pause		Pauses the playout of the playlist. The button switches back to the **Play** button or to the **Play On Time** button.
Stop		Stops the playout of the playlist.
Goto Next Item		Jumps to the next playlist element and continues with the playout.
Goto Previous Item		Recues the current element at first click. Next click jumps to the previous playlist element.
Cue a playlist item	ALT + double-click a selected item	Immediately cues the selected playlist item. The item which played before the operation freezes during this short period of time.
Cue and Play ASAP a playlist item	CTRL + double-click a selected item	Immediately cues the selected playlist item and starts playing it as soon as possible. The item which played before the operation freezes during this short period of time.

3.2.2. Timecode Value Fields

Both timecode displays in the upper right part of the Playlist pane can be configured independently. Right-clicking on a Timecode field displays a contextual menu with the following options:

Menu Item	Meaning
Show Block Remaining Timecode	Displays the remaining time until the end of the block.
Show Block Elapsed Timecode	Displays the elapsed time since the beginning of the block.
Show Playlist Remaining Timecode	Displays the remaining time until the end of the playlist.
Show Playlist Elapsed Timecode	Displays the elapsed time since the beginning of the playlist.
Show Clip Remaining Timecode	Displays the remaining time until the end of the playing clip.
Show Clip Elapsed Timecode	Displays the elapsed time since the beginning of the clip.
Copy Timecode	Used to copy the timecode and paste it in the notepad.

3.2.3. Resolution Columns Display

Introduction

The first three columns, Res, HR and LR, give information on playlist element resolution.

As broadcasting is a priority, when hi-res media is not available, the Playout Organizer will force the playout in lo-res.

Res Column

The column is filled only when the playlist element is cued. Its value indicates the resolution that will be used for the element playout.

Possible values are explained in the following table.

Display	Meaning
HR	High resolution. Default value.
LR	Low resolution. This value is used when the low resolution has been forced or when the high resolution is not present.
HR+LR	High resolution and low resolution. This value is used when some hi-res media and/or some lo-res media are not available. Media which are missing in one resolution must be present in the other resolution.
	At least one media is missing in both resolutions.

HR and LR Columns

A check is done as soon as a playout channel is assigned.

Possible values are explained in the following table.

Display	Meaning
?	No playout channel is assigned.
X	The media or the edit (made of media) is not present on a disk of the media server or it cannot be reached. This is displayed when all the media of an edit are archived.
V	The media or the edit (made of media) is present on a disk of the media server.
XR	The media or the edit (made of media) is being recorded or being restored.
P	Some media of the edit are archived and deleted (ARCHIDEL status). P is used for partial.

Display According to Media Availability

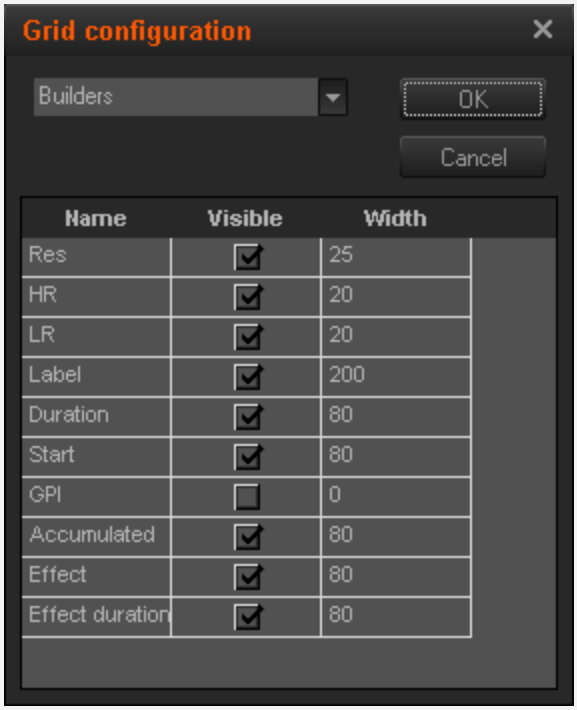
The following table gives indication on the resolution columns status depending on the availability of the media and depending on whether the low resolution has been forced.

Force Low Resolution	Hi-res media	Lo-res media	Display		
			Res	HR	LR
N	All are present	All are present	HR	V	V
N	At least one is missing	All are present	HR+LR	P	V
N	All are present	At least one is missing	HR	V	P
N	At least one is missing	At least one missing in hi-res is missing in lo-res too.		P	P
N	At least one is missing	At least one is missing but not the same as the one missing in hi-res.	HR+LR	P	P
N	All are missing	All are missing		X	X
N	All are missing	All are present	LR	X	V
N	All are present	All are missing	HR	V	X
Y	All are present	All are present	LR	V	V
Y	At least one is missing	All are present	LR	P	V
Y	All are present	At least one is missing		V	P
Y	At least one is missing	At least one missing in hi-res is missing in lo-res too.		P	P
Y	At least one is missing	At least one is missing but not the same as the one missing in hi-res.		P	P
Y	All are missing	All are missing		X	X
Y	All are missing	All are present	LR	X	V
Y	All are present	All are missing		V	X

3.2.4. Playlist Contextual Menu

A contextual menu is available when you right-click on a playlist item in the list:

Menu Item	Description
Insert Comment	Insert a comment line before the selected playlist item.
Remove Item	Removes the selected item: playlist element or comment line.

Menu Item	Description
View/Adjust item	Allows trimming the selected element. See section "Trimming an Element into a Playlist" on page 17.
Check Item	Check the presence of media file on the storage.
Save Grid Layout	Saves the current grid layout.
Select Visible Columns	Opens the Grid Configuration window allowing the users to select the columns to be visible in the list and to define their width.  This window is the same for all the lists displayed in the Xedio Playout Organizer window. To update the Playlist, select Builders from the field:

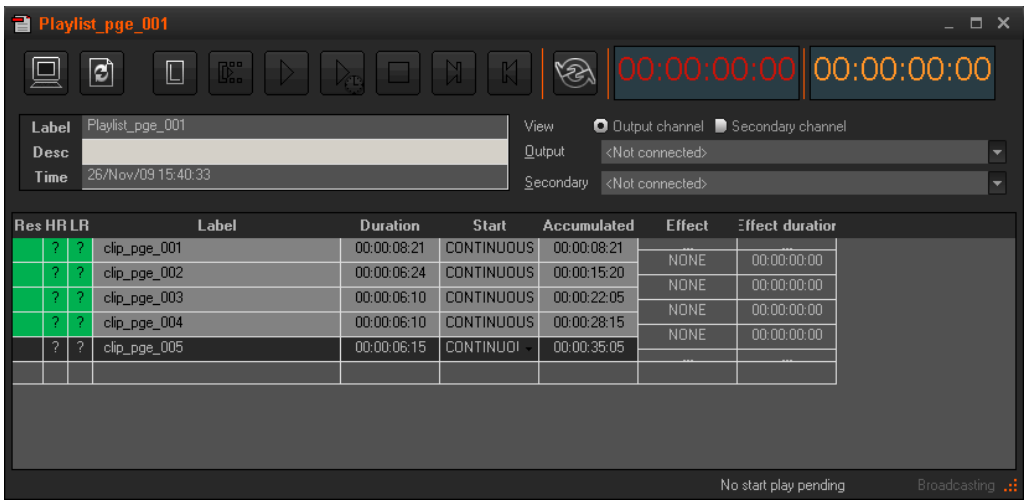
3.3. Playlist Management

Opening a Playlist

By default, when the software is started, an empty playlist is opened in the Playlist pane. A new empty playlist can also be opened by selecting **New Playlist** from the File menu of the main Menu bar.

An existing playlist can be opened in one of the following ways:

- by double-clicking on the playlist item in the Contents pane
- by dragging it from the Contents list to the upper part of the Playlist pane.
- by right-clicking on the playlist item in the Contents pane and selecting **Open playlist** from the contextual menu.



Renaming a Playlist

A double-click on a playlist name in the **Label** field of the Playlist pane will allow the user to type a new text.

Deleting a Playlist

To delete a playlist, right-click on the playlist item in the Contents pane and select **Delete items from database** from the contextual menu.

Exporting a Playlist

To export a playlist, right-click on the playlist item in the Contents pane and select **Export playlist to text file** from the contextual menu.

3.4. Playlist Editing

3.4.1. Adding Items to a Playlist

The approval of items may be mandatory before their insertion into a playlist if the parameter **Force Approval** has been enabled in Xedio Manager > Softwares > Parameter Profiles.

To add an item to a playlist, do one of the following:

- drag it from the Contents pane to the playlist, at the position you want to drop it
- double-click on the item in the Contents pane
- right-click on the item in the Contents pane and select **Add media to playlist** from the contextual menu
- select an item in the Contents pane and click the button

You can also change the order of items within a playlist by moving them using drag-and-drop operations.

Note
When adding an ARCHIDEL archived clip to the playlist, an automatic restore can be launched if the broadcast date and time is foreseen within 24 hours. This automatic restore is configured through the **Automatic restore priority** parameter in Xedio Manager in Softwares > Parameter Profiles > Playout Organizer.

Note
An open playlist synchronized with a MOS rundown is automatically refreshed when an item is inserted or removed, or when the items order changes.

3.4.2. Inserting a Playlist into a Playlist

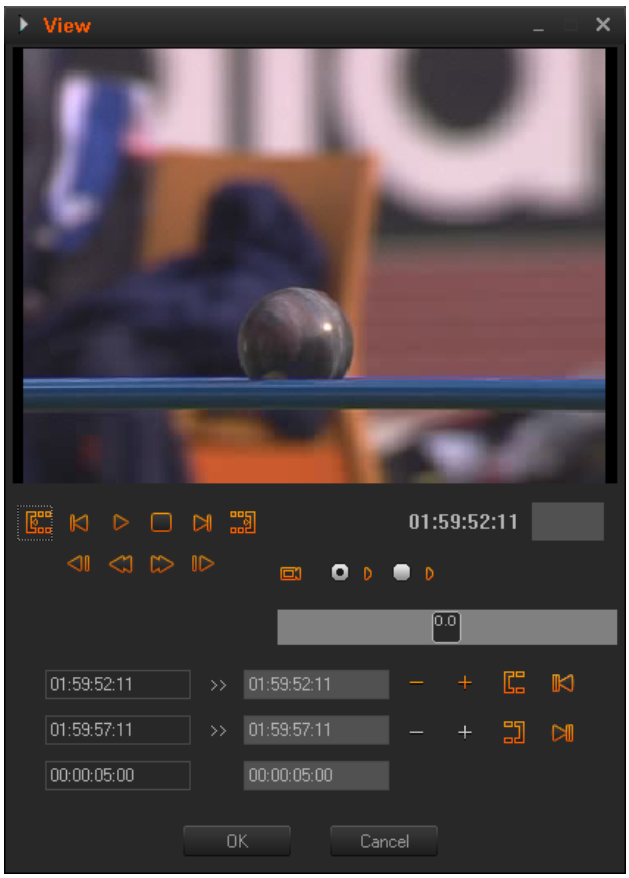
You can drag a playlist (A) into another one (playlist B). When you do so, the items contained in playlist A are inserted one by one at the position where you dropped it.

3.4.3. Trimming an Element into a Playlist

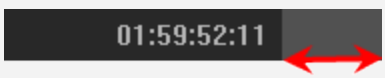
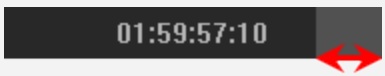
When a media or a clip is inserted into a playlist, you can re-trim it. The change will affect the playlist item only, not the original media/clip.

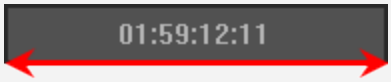
View Window

When you right-click on the playlist item and select **View/adjust item**, the View window opens:



User interface items specific to this window are described below.

User Interface Element	Description
	Loads the first frame of the original playlist element.
	Loads the last frame of the original playlist element.
Media Bar	The Media Bar is the graphical representation of the displayed clip within the entire media the clip belongs to.
	Media bar when the clip is loaded on its first frame. This is the view displayed when the View window is opened.
	Media bar when the clip is loaded on its last frame.

User Interface Element	Description
	Entire media bar when the first frame of the original media is loaded (Go to Start of Media).
(colored)	Moves the IN point 1 frame ahead
(colored)	Moves the IN point 1 frame behind
(white)	Moves the OUT point 1 frame ahead
(white)	Moves the OUT point 1 frame behind
	Marks a new IN point
	Marks a new OUT point
	Jumps to the new Mark IN point, or to IN point of the original playlist element if it has not been updated.
	Jumps to the new Mark OUT point, or to OUT point of the original playlist element if it has not been updated.
TC IN of the original playlist element Restore original TC New TC IN of the playlist element after Mark IN 01:59:52:11 >> 01:59:49:12 TC OUT of the original playlist element 01:59:57:11 >> 01:59:58:17 New TC OUT of the playlist element after Mark IN 00:00:05:00 00:00:09:05 Duration of the original playlist element Restore original TC New duration of the playlist element after Mark IN	

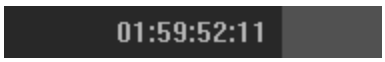
How to Adjust an Item

To adjust an item, proceed as follows:

1. Right-click on the clip and select **View/adjust item**.

   The View window opens.

2. Select a new Mark IN or Mark OUT point in one of the following ways:

   - move within the jog bar
   - click in the media bar 
   - use the common transport buttons
   - use the buttons

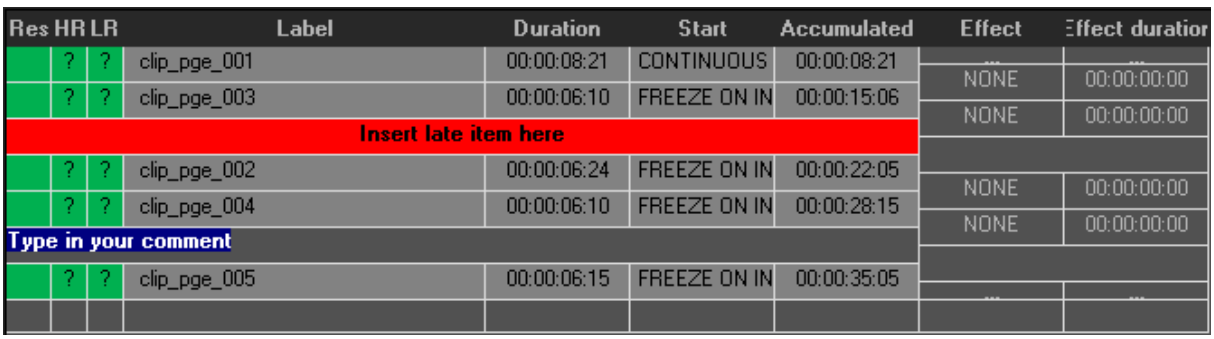
3. Click the **Mark In** or the **Mark Out** button.

4. Click the **OK** button.

The playlist element duration is displayed in bold in the playlist to indicate that the IN and/or OUT points have been modified from the original marks.

3.4.4. Adding Comments to a Playlist

You can insert comments between two items of a playlist. The comments appear as a text line and do not affect the playout in any way. Right-click where you want to insert a comment and select **Insert comment** from the contextual menu.



3.4.5. Removing an Item from a Playlist

To remove an item from the playlist, right click on the playlist item and select **Remove item** from the contextual menu. This can be used to remove a comment.

3.5. Playout Management

3.5.1. Setting the Start Mode

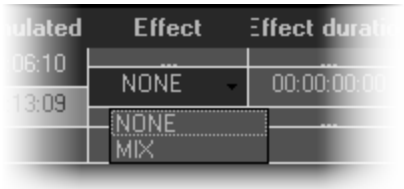
Three start modes are available by clicking the arrow in the Start column for each element:

Start Mode	Behavior
Continuous	When the Start mode of all the playlist elements is set to CONTINUOUS, they will be automatically chained together.
Step	When the Start mode of a playlist element is set to STEP, the playlist will stop on the last frame of that element.
Freeze on in	When the Start mode of a playlist element is set to FREEZE ON IN, the playout will pause on the first frame of the next playlist element.

Note
One of these start modes is used as default. It can be changed in the **Tools > Options > Options** menu. See section "Default Start Mode" on page 28 for more information.

3.5.2. Setting the Transition Effects

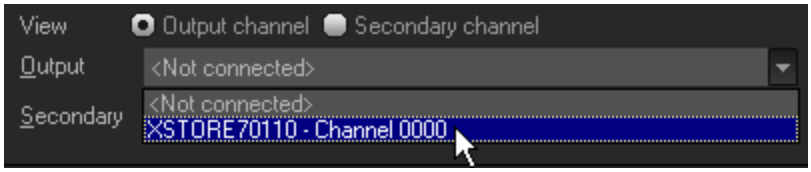
If the Start mode is set to **CONTINUOUS**, a MIX transition effect can be executed between two items. In the Effect column, select **MIX** and in the Effect duration column, enter the duration of the effect.



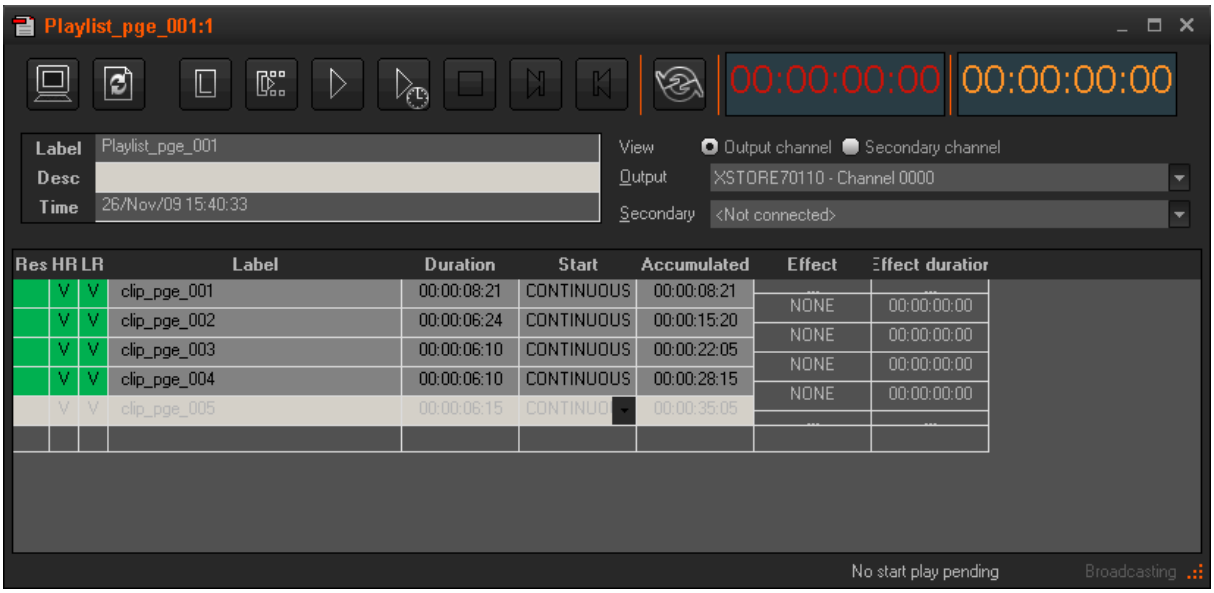
3.5.3. Broadcasting a Playlist

When a playlist is ready to be played out to air, it needs to be connected to the playout server (hardware) component.

In the **Output** field, select the hardware hosting the Playout server:



Once the operation is completed, you have access to the play buttons from the Playlist pane and from the Channel pane.



The Channel pane indicates that the channel is locked by the user.

If you get an error message, please check that the playout server is started and running.

Note
If a hi-res file that should be used for the playout of one item is not available, the system will automatically switch to its corresponding low-res in order to ensure the picture output. The **HR** and **LR** columns show the file presence on the server and the **Res** column shows the resolution that will be used for the playout session.

3.5.4. Looping a Playlist

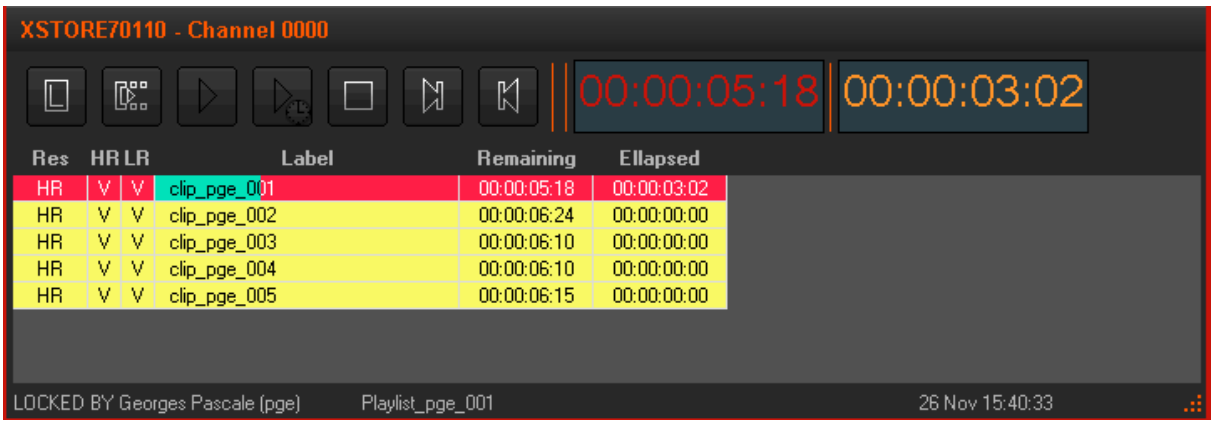
It is possible to loop a playlist. Just click the **Loop** button . When the playlist reaches its end, it will loop back and start again from its beginning.

Note
This mode is only available to playlist composed of chained items.

4. The Channel Pane

4.1. Overview of the Channel Pane

The Channel pane shows the status of all playout servers individually. Each playout server corresponds to one output channel.


XSTORE70110 - Channel 0000
00:00:05:18
00:00:03:02
Res HR LR Label Remaining Ellapsed
HR V V clip_pge_001 00:00:05:18 00:00:03:02
HR V V clip_pge_002 00:00:06:24 00:00:00:00
HR V V clip_pge_003 00:00:06:10 00:00:00:00
HR V V clip_pge_004 00:00:06:10 00:00:00:00
HR V V clip_pge_005 00:00:06:15 00:00:00:00
LOCKED BY Georges Pascale (pge)
Playlist_pge_001
26 Nov 15:40:33

The upper part of the Channel pane provides transport buttons and timecode fields. The **Play** buttons become available as soon as a Playlist pane is connected to a playout server.

The lower part of the Channel pane displays the elements of the playlist as soon as the playlist is loaded on the output channel.

When the playlist is being broadcasted, the pane displays the list of remaining items to play. Different colors are used to highlight the clip currently playing and the preloaded clips.

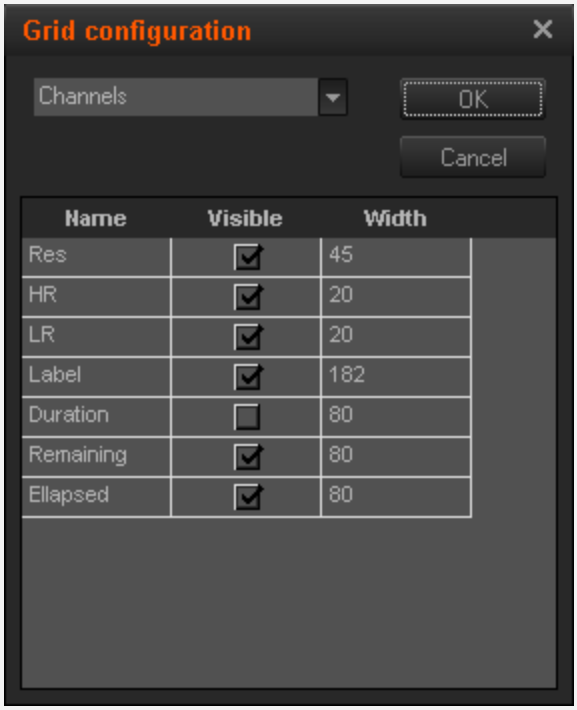
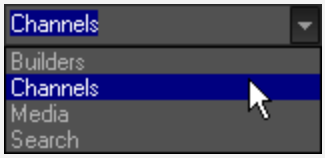
4.2. Transport Controls and Timecode Fields

The transport controls available from the Channel pane are the same as those provided in the Playlist pane. See section "Transport Controls" on page 10 for more information.

The **Timecode** fields can show either the playing clip remaining timecode or the clip elapsed timecode. These options are available when you right-click on the **Timecode** fields.

4.3. Playlist Contextual Menu

A contextual menu is available when you right-click on a playlist item in the list:

Menu Item	Description
Open Playlist	Loads the corresponding playlist for editing in the Playlist pane. This option is available only if the playlist is not already opened.
Track Clip On Air	If you scroll the Channel pane list so the item being played out at this moment is no more visible, as soon as the next item will be played out, the system displays this item at the top of the Channel pane list.
Show Clip On Air	As soon as this option is selected, the system immediately displays the item being played out at the top of the Channel pane list.
Save Grid Layout	Saves the current grid layout.
Select Visible Columns	Opens the Grid Configuration window allowing to select the columns to be visible in the list and to define their width.  This window is the same for all the lists displayed in the Xedio Playout Organizer window. To update the Channel pane list, select Channels from the field: 

Menu Item	Description
Open AS run log	Opens the As run log report.
Open Error Log	Opens the Error log window.

5. Menu Bar

5.1. Introduction

Several commands are available from the Menu Bar at the top of the Xedio Playout organizer window.

Only the functions specific to the Playout organizer are described hereafter.

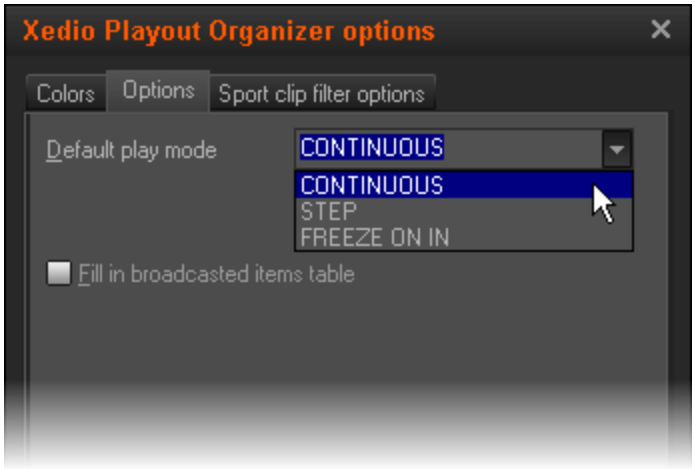
The following options are available from the Tools menu.

5.2. Colors

The colors of the interface can be customized via the menu **Tools>Option>Colors**.

5.3. Default Start Mode

The default start mode can be set via the menu **Tools>Option>Options**.

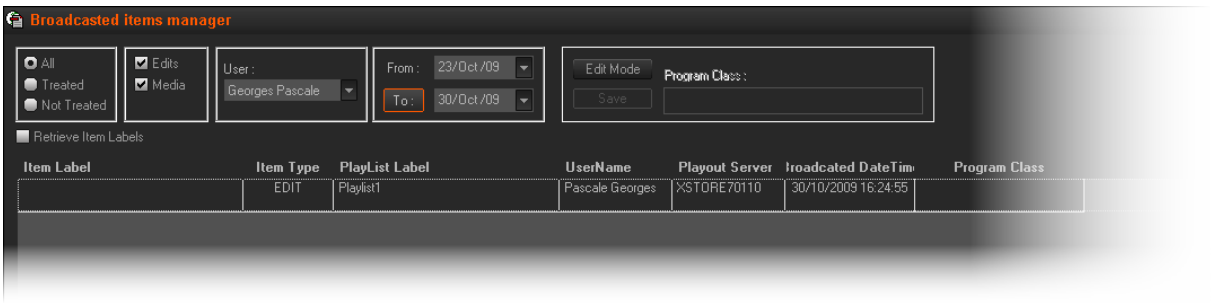


5.4. Broadcasted Items

The software can record all items being played out in a table within the database.

To show the table, select **Broadcasted Manager** from the Tools menu of the Menu bar.

The table can be used with filters to show a history of all items that have been played out.



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